

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN NODS-00

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DRAFTED BY NEA:ARDAY:LAB

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

NEA:ALATHERTON,JR.

NSC:B. MC FARLANE

S/S:O A. OTTO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 024969

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, US, IR

SUBJECT: MESSAGE TO SHAH ON RABIN VISIT

1. PLEASE CONVEY FOLLOWING ORAL MESSAGE FROM ME TO SHAH:

2. WE HAVE JUST CONCLUDED SEVERAL DAYS OF MEETINGS WITH
PRIME MINISTER RABIN, AND ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT I
WOULD LIKE TO CONVEY TO YOU A REPORT ABOUT THESE TALKS.
I SHALL HAVE AT LEAST ONE FURTHER SESSION WITH RABIN
NEXT WEEK IN LOS ANGELES.

3. LET ME SAY FRANKLY THAT THE DISCUSSIONS WERE DIFFICULT
ONES, BUT THAT WE MAY HAVE MADE SOME LIMITED PROGRESS.
RABIN CAME TO WASHINGTON WITH A BASICALLY STAND-PAT
POSITION, BUT PRESIDENT FORD EMPHASIZED THAT THE UNITED
STATES CANNOT TOLERATE STAGNATION AND STALEMATE BECAUSE IT
WOULD BE CONTRARY TO ITS OVERALL NATIONAL INTEREST. WE
MADE CLEAR THAT STANDING STILL DURING 1976 WOULD BE AN
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UNACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE SO FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED. IT

WOULD LEAD TO A DETERIORATION OF THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, WOULD WEAKEN THE U.S. ROLE IN FUTURE DIPLOMACY OF THE AREA, AND WOULD PROVIDE ENHANCED OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOVIET ACTIVITY.

4. WE INTEND NOW TO DEVELOP SOME IDEAS OF A PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE CHARACTER TO PURSUE FURTHER THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS WITH THE ISRAELIS. WE SHALL ALSO BE INTENSIFYING OUR CONSULTATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF EGYPT, SYRIA, AND JORDAN, AND WE SHALL WANT TO BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU FROM TIME TO TIME AS SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS OCCUR IN THE PERIOD AHEAD.

5. I WOULD LIKE ALSO TO MENTION ANOTHER SUBJECT THAT CONCERNS US AND THAT I KNOW IS OF GREAT INTEREST TO YOUR MAJESTY. WE HAVE BEEN GRATIFIED TO SEE THE CEASEFIRE TAKE EFFECT IN LEBANON AND THE FIGHTING COME TO AN END. WE ARE ENCOURAGED TO HOPE THAT THIS CEASEFIRE MIGHT PROVE MORE DURABLE THAN THE OTHERS IN PART BY THE FACT THAT IT WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MOVES TOWARD A POLITICAL ACCOMMODATION AMONG THE FACTIONS IN THE COUNTRY. IF SUCCESSFUL, SUCH MOVES COULD FORM THE BASIS FOR LONGER TERM POLITICAL STABILITY. WE SHALL, FOR OUR PART, CONTINUE TO URGE ALL THE PARTIES TO EMPLOY THE RESTRAINT AND COOPERATION NECESSARY FOR THIS TO OCCUR AND WE WOULD HOPE THAT YOU MIGHT EXERCISE YOUR CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE IN LEBANON TO THE SAME END.

6. I WOULD, AS ALWAYS, VALUE YOUR THOUGHTS AND ADVICE AND MEANWHILE SEND TO YOUR IMPERIAL MAJESTY MY WARM PERSONAL REGARDS. KISSINGER

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